



Potters Guild of British Columbia

1359 Cartwright St., Granville Island
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7
(604) 683-9623

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1994



MUD-PUSHER, ROBIN HOPPER

FROM "MEMOIRS OF A MUD-PUSHER"

-Robin Hopper-

Ceramics is probably the most complex of the visual art forms. Its combination of Art and Science, Painting and Three-Dimensional Expression is unique. Its intricacies of technology, combined with its ten thousand year history of human cultural expression and its life affirming and life assisting virtues gives this medium qualities that set it far above most other art forms. For me it is the ultimate visual art form in much the same way as opera is the ultimate theatrical art form, combining song drama and often dance. It requires great dedication and consummate skill development before individual expression can be reliably coaxed from inert mud and ground up rocks transformed by fire. Next to glassblowing it is also probably the most masochistic of the arts! I really enjoy its challenge and the knowledge that I will never know all about that I want to know about it - one lifetime is just not enough. They say that about music too, and it is claimed in some circles that the only way that Mozart could be so precocious as a composer at the age of 6 was by being reincarnated as a musician. Who knows, next time around I might be able to start with what I have learned about this medium to date.

GALLERY NEWS

Renovations to the GALLERY OF b.c. CERAMICS are proceeding at a much quicker pace than was originally planned. So far we have removed the raised walkway and repainted all gallery walls with the exception of the show area. In the show area, the raised platform has been lowered to enable easier access while retaining the sense of a separate space. The carpet has been stripped from the concrete floors and the glue removed. New slat wall shelving is now being installed at the east end of the gallery and tenders are now out for the provision of book shelves and display units to enable us to begin carrying a selection of ceramics books and periodicals. We have also relocated the sales desk to the area under the studio windows. This makes the sales area more comfortable and places the desk in a much more central area.

Assisting in this work have been a number of volunteers who all deserve a warm vote of thanks. Tam Irving, Linda Doherty, Nathan Rafla, Pat Taddy, Darlene Nairn, Jay McClellan, Gillian McMillan, Georgina Brandon, John Pickering (who lent us valuable tools), Elwin Lowe and Penny Birnbaum have all put in many, many hours making these changes possible.

STEMS AND STEINS, our November promotion is moving forward nicely. Many of you have brought in stock and we are looking forward to receiving more throughout the month of November. REMEMBER - ALL GUILD MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PROMOTION.

A NEW SERVICE FOR MEMBERS

Starting soon, we will be stocking packing and shipping materials for sale to members at discount prices. Contact Jane Matthews at the Gallery for details and pick up times.

GUILD NEWS

OCTOBER JURY RESULTS

Nine potters submitted work to the October jury. We wish to welcome the following potters to the Gallery:

Celia Rice-Jones
Pat Taddy
Denys James

XXX

Changes are taking place in Guild operations as well as in GALLERY OF B.C. CERAMICS operations. Among the changes are acquiring the capability to perform a number of tasks in house that were previously contracted out. This includes producing and mailing the newsletter in house. New membership data bases have been created. A complete listing of titles in the Guild library is now available to members for a nominal fee.

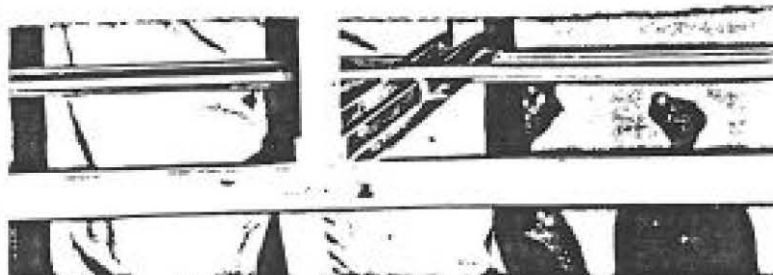
We have re-established relations with the Interior Designer's Institute of B.C. and are targeting to make a special presentation to this group early in 1995.

To expand our exposure to potential markets, we have engaged a graduate student in the UBC M.B.A. program to take a look at our potential markets and

to develop recommendations on ways to get our message to those special buyers. We are also developing information on major hotel and restaurant contacts to ensure that they are aware of the kinds of products that are available through the Gallery. Some time in the new year we will also be developing and making available to all members a listing of potential retail outlets for ceramics products.

RUTH DUCKWORTH WORKSHOP

The Ruth Duckworth workshop held in October was the most well attended pottery workshop ever put on by the Guild. Over 100 people registered for the workshop and attended the two day session with



Ruth. A video of the workshop is currently being prepared by Melanie Corbin and will be available in the near future.

POTS AND PEOPLE

LAURA ARPIAINEN

Every Friday night was special for me in Helsinki. The night when most people of my age hit the clubs or gave parties, my friends knew that they could count me out. Why? Because I was always teaching pottery.

It all started when in my late teens, I went to a pottery class in the local youth centre. The building, an old cow shed with massive stone walls, housed facilities for woodworking, car and bike repair, sewing and pottery. I loved it. I hardly ever skipped a Friday evening class, and a couple of years later I was hired as an assistant teacher.

So there I was with five wheels, two kilns, lots of table space and shelves, a couple of tons of clay in the car repair pit, and a very nice group of people to work with. Not bad. The only thing, of course, is that when you teach you don't get much of your own work done. I solved this by staying after class or going during weekends to work by myself. I have no idea how I always seemed to get the place into a worse mess than fifteen kids did - I wonder if this ever happens to others.

My favourite thing, I guess, is throwing. I'm not very good at it. Maybe I enjoy doing things that I find difficult. My next favourite thing must be slip casting. I am a bit better at that. This, incidentally, may have something to do with the fact that pottery never became my profession but architecture did. When I feel I want to do something special, I go for nerikomi. But whatever technique I may be using, I am always looking for the simplicity of form. What an adventure.

My pottery is very much like the title of an exhibition we held last year in the Septaria Gallery in Helsinki: Planned and Coincidental. Since I never had any academic pottery training I have never really had to fear doing things wrong. So, at times the works turn out the way I intended, and many times they don't. Either way they can still please me. When I was asked to submit a few lines to the exhibition brochure I said that it had never ceased to astonish me how pieces of earth could turn into such a variety of special works. It still hasn't.

So, one of the first things I did when I got to Canada was to find the Gallery of B.C. Ceramics on Granville Island and join the Guild. My next aim is to get to work.

[Laura Arpiainen is a new Guild member looking for studio space.]

If you would like to write about your situation in this column, please contact Keith at 522-8803 or send your article to Jan Krueger at the Guild Ph.669-5645.

LETTERS

Dear Jan:

I enjoyed "meeting" you on the phone today and am rushing this article on the Tozan Cultural Society Kiln to you so that members of the society and the Potters Guild can be kept up to date.

Our last meeting on 22 Sept. saw the reports on the finished Crane Brick Caper. The society now has 33,000 bricks palletized and stored at Malaspina University/College in Nanaimo. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the potters who came and helped with the removal of the brick. It was wonderful to meet all of the potters and put faces to names and work. There are so many of you to thank that we don't know where to start...Cathi Jefferson (a great gal with a jack hammer), Linda Doherty, Keith and Celia Rice-Jones (they had a great shower for dusty and tired people), Vincent Massey, Laura Stool from Salt Spring, Diane DeLollo, Jackson Hirota, Lynn and Bob Johnson. There were so many I cannot list them all at one time.

Committees have been formed to get our wood supply in order, to run workshops, to raise funds and to work on more grants.

Dr. Yukio Yamamoto is planning to come to Canada in January 1995, and we are house hunting in the Nanaimo area.

Don't forget we have bricks for sale. We need to raise more funds to pay for the all metal building to cover the kiln and of course for all the incidentals.

Any suggestions will be most welcome and of course we are always happy to hear from interested potters and artists.

Next meeting will be January 21, 1995 -- at 10:00am. Place to be announced.

Regards,

Maureen Beardsly

NOTE: The Gallery of B.C. Ceramics will be showing work by Dr. Yamamoto in mid-1995

MADE IN CLAY NOTES

CATHI JEFFERSON

Yikes! Boy, I made quite a mistake in the last newsletter. The price of booth space is a total of \$260.00 (not \$360.00). A \$100.00 deposit is due by December 1, 1994. This money is needed to book the Performance Works space on Granville Island for the second annual MADE IN CLAY sale. The remaining \$160.00 is due by January 15, 1995. Participants that signed up for early registration must forward their deposits as well as new participants. YOU MUST SIGN UP ON TIME.

Some ideas for a theme or raffle need to be considered. A spring sale is a good time to capitalize on the fresh growth of plants. They need pots. Any connection with the different horticultural societies and their interests might lead to something. A garden theme has endless possibilities that could really enhance the appeal of MADE IN CLAY and involve a gardeners organization as well.

If you would like to participate in the Gallery of B.C. Ceramics consignment area, the registration fee is \$10.00. This allows you to show 3-5 pots. The usual gallery commission is taken from all consignment sales.

If you want to volunteer to help out, contact me at 929-9175. Good luck with your Christmas sales.

NOTE: TO DATE APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE BOOTH SPACES ARE TAKEN. YOU MUST REGISTER NOW TO AVOID MISSING OUT.

MADE IN CLAY BOOTH APPLICATION

NAME: _____ PHONE NO. _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

If sharing your booth,

Sharing with: NAME: _____ PHONE NO. _____

ADDRESS: _____

I would like to help with: _____

PLEASE MAIL WITH \$100.00 DEPOSIT TO: MADE IN CLAY
 POTTERS' GUILD OF B.C.
 1359 CARTWRIGHT STREET
 VANCOUVER, B.C.
 V6H 3R7

BY DECEMBER 1, 1994, [CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE POTTER'S GUILD OF
 B.C.]

NOTE: The Guild takes a 10 percent share of gross sales for this event to pay
 costs.

1995 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE NOW
 DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

YES, I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER _____

YES, I WANT TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP _____

I/We are applying for the following category of membership:

Individual	\$35	_____
Senior	\$20	_____
Family or Studio (2/4 persons)	\$50	_____
Institution/Group	\$70	_____
Full time Student	\$20	_____

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ POSTAL CODE: _____

I/We enclose \$ _____ cash, cheque or money order.

MAIL TO: POTTERS GUILD OF B.C.
 1359 CARTWRIGHT ST.
 VANCOUVER, B.C.
 V3C 5G8

ROBIN HOPPER WORKSHOP

The Potters Guild of B.C. is sponsoring a workshop with Robin Hopper. Workshop dates are January 28 and 29, 1995. The workshop will be held at Emily Carr College on Granville Island, Vancouver, B.C.

Robin says, "The content of the workshop will include the following:

- Throwing, trimming, assemblage and finishing of work.
- Decoration techniques - Slipware, Coloured Clay Techniques, Brush work.
- Slide presentations including ceramic history, my own work and development.

I expect that there will be discussions on Glaze and Colour Development, possibly on Business, and whatever else comes up during the workshop session, depending on the questions that are asked. I usually prefer to start with slides, as it makes explanation of a lot of other things much easier later."

ROBIN HOPPER WORKSHOP ENROLMENT FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 _____ CODE: _____

MEMBER COST: \$90 PLUS GST, TOTAL OWING \$96.30
 NON MEMBER COST: \$105 PLUS GST, TOTAL OWING \$112.35 _____

PLEASE SUBMIT ENROLMENT FORM WITH PAYMENT TO :
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-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

DON'T FORGET THE "STEMS AND STEINS" CHRISTMAS PROMOTION. THIS YEAR WE HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH SPAGNOL'S, THE HOME WINE SUPPLIERS, AND WESTMINSTER BREWING CO TO SPONSOR THE EVENT. THE PROMOTION IS SCHEDULED TO RUN NOV. 5-DECEMBER 5. ALL MEMBERS OF THE GUILD ARE INVITED TO BRING THEIR WARES FOR THIS PROMOTION.

RICHMOND POTTERS CLUB
ANNUAL XMAS SALE

Place: Richmond Cultural Centre
7700 Minoru Gate
Richmond, B.C.

Dates: Nov. 25: 3-9 pm.
Nov. 26: 10 am - 3 pm

1995 FILBERG FESTIVAL

CALL FOR ENTRY

Call: Sylvia Allan at 339-7110
for more information or write:
61 Filberg Rd.
Comox, B.C.
V9M 2S7

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS
DECEMBER 1, 1994.

STUDIO POTTERS NETWORK

COORDINATOR FOR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS
AT THE 1995 NCECA CONFERENCE IS
POLLY MARTIN
6 JERUSALEM RD.
FAIRHAVEN, MA. 02719 U.S.A.
PH. 508-993-2348

ALSO, TEAPOT SHOW (GROUPS ONLY) AND
EXHIBITION
ENTRY DATE: DEC. 1, 1994.

FORM AVAILABLE AT THE POTTERS GUILD
OFFICE. CONTACT JAN KRUEGER AT
669-5645

HOPE UNLIMITED

CONTACT: NANCY BRADSHAW
PH. 732-0858

IS SEEKING A SUPPLIER OF CERAMIC
AROMA THERAPY BURNERS (CANDLE LIT).

DELTA ART TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION IS
HOSTING THE 39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
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19, 1995.

THE ASSOCIATION IS SEEKING ARTISTS
TO SELL WORK DURING THE CONFERENCE.
COST IS \$100 PER TABLE.

CONTACT MAUREEN SLEVIN AT
PH. 943-7407

B.C. CREATIVE ARTS SHOW
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:
DECEMBER 5, 1994

INFORMATION: 520-5720

VINCENT MASSEY POTTERY SALE
1245 Cartwright St.
Dec. 7-11
11 am-9pm

THOMPSON VALLEY POTTERS AND WEAVERS
CHRISTMAS SALE

STOCKMAN'S HOTEL
KAMLOOPS, B.C.
NOV. 12: 10am - 4pm

WORKSHOP and COURSE
SCHEDULING

The Guild is currently planning
workshops for the 1995 season.
Robin Hopper: January 28/29, 1994

Andy Martin is scheduled for March.

We have requests for workshops with
Katherine Young and for a Raku
workshop.

Please let us know if there are

others you wish to schedule.

UNCLASSIFIED ADS

TANYA MITCHELL IS SEEKING AN
APPRENTICESHIP WITH A POTTER.

Tanya has recently moved to B.C.
from New Brunswick. She can be
contacted at 604-920-9957 in
Victoria.

FOR SALE: KICK WHEEL
ASKING \$180.00
CONTACT: Ping Wong
Ph. 731-9982

FOR SALE: ESTRIN ELECTRIC WHEEL
ASKING \$400.00
CONTACT: Karrin Poiker
Ph. 936-3767

FOR SALE: ESTRIN POTTERY WHEEL
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CONTACT: R. WEGHSTEIN
Ph. 943-4085

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Ph. Stuart at 604-746-9719

THE POTTERS' GUILD OF B.C. NEWSLETTER

The NEWSLETTER is published 10 times a year
as an information link for the Membership.
Submissions are welcome and should be in the
Guild office by the third Friday of the
month. Text may be edited for publication.

Executive Director & Editor: Jan Krueger

Gallery Managers: Jane Matthews
Gallery assistants: Lee Price,
Melanie Corbin, Deborah Tibbel.

Advertising Rates: \$120 full page; \$60 half
page; \$40 one column; \$35 quarter page; \$25
half column.

Unclassified: Free to members. Non
members, \$8 minimum up to three lines; \$2
per column line thereafter. All ads are to
be prepaid and include GST. Deadline is
last Friday of the month.

1995 Membership Fees: \$35 individuals; \$50
family or studio membership, 2-4 persons;
\$70 institutions and groups; \$20 full time
students and seniors, January - December.

Board of Directors: Pres. Ian Irving; V.
Pres. Nathan Rafia; Treas. Pat Taddy; Sec.
June Macdonald. Directors: Linda Doherty,
Kersti Krug, Carol Mayer, Dawn McMaters, Joe
Nagel, Keith Rice-Jones, Ron Vallis, Gillian
McMillan.

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